<u>Listing of claims:</u>

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended)   ~~The computer-readable medium of Claim 1, wherein the test method executor comprises a state engine that is arranged~~ A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components, comprising:
    a test case scenario object that comprises a test method that is arranged to test an electronic system:

    a test harness that is arranged to invoke the test method by issuing a request to invoke the test method; and

    a test method executor that is arranged to receive the request and invoke the requested test method by evaluating attributes that are associated with the requested test method before execution of the requested test method, to execute the requested test method, to evaluate attributes of the executed test method, to process data that is presented by the attributes that are associated with the requested test method, and to return a result to the test harness that signals the result of the evaluation of the executed test method attributes.

3. (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable medium of Claim ~~1~~2, wherein the result signals whether the execution of the requested test method is one of a success, failure, and skipped status.

4. (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable medium of Claim ~~1~~2, wherein the test method executor is further arranged to gather data about the requested test method for the test harness.

5. (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable medium of Claim ~~1~~2, wherein the test case scenario object is arranged to request a test service by querying a test services provider object.

6. (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable medium of ~~12~~, wherein the attributes that are associated with the requested test method are presented to the test method executor as an ordered list.

7. (Original)   The computer-readable medium of Claim 6, wherein the test method executor evaluates the attributes that are associated with the requested test method according to the order of the ordered list.

8. (Currently Amended)   The computer-readable medium of Claim ~~1~~2, wherein the test method executor is further configured to generate a parameter list in response to the before execution evaluation of the attributes that are associated with the requested test method.

9. (Currently Amended)   ~~The computer-readable medium of Claim 1, wherein the test method executor is further arranged~~ A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components, comprising:

a test case scenario object that comprises a test method that is arranged to test an electronic system;

a test harness that is arranged to invoke the test method by issuing a request to invoke the test method; and

a test method executor that is arranged to receive the request and invoke the requested test method by evaluating attributes that are associated with the requested test method before execution of the requested test method, to execute the requested test method, to evaluate attributes of the executed test method, to return a result to the test harness that signals a status that results when an exception is thrown, and to return a result to the test harness that signals the result of the evaluation of the executed test method attributes.

10. (Cancelled)

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11. (Currently Amended)   The method of Claim ~~10~~18 wherein the invocation request is received from a test harness.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the result value is returned to the test harness.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 11, further comprising gathering data about the requested test method for the test harness.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 11, further comprising requesting a test service from the test harness.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein the test service is requested by a test case scenario object that is associated with the test method.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 15, further comprising determining the order in which the test method is executed.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 16, wherein the order is determined by the test case scenario object.

18. (Currently Amended)   ~~The method of Claim 11, further comprising~~ A method for automated testing, comprising:

receiving an invocation request to invoke a test method for testing an electronic system;

evaluating attributes that are associated with the requested test method such that the attributes are evaluated before execution of the requested test method and that the attributes are evaluated in response to the invocation request;

executing the requested test method in response to the evaluating of the attributes;

evaluating attributes that are associated with the executed test method; returning a result to the test harness that signals a status that results when an exception is thrown; and

determining a result value that signals the result of the evaluation of the executed test method attributes.

19. (Original) The method of Claim ~~10~~9 wherein the result value signals whether the execution of the requested test method is one of a success, failure, and skipped status.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended)   ~~The system of Claim 20, wherein the test method executor comprises a state engine that is arranged~~ A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components, comprising:

a test case scenario object that comprises a test method that is arranged to test an electronic system;

a test harness that is arranged to invoke the test method by issuing a request to invoke the test method; and

a test method executor that is arranged to receive the request and invoke the requested test method by evaluating attributes that are associated with the requested test method before execution of the requested test method, to execute the requested test method, to evaluate attributes of the executed test method, to process data that is presented by the attributes that are associated with the requested test method, and to return a result to the test harness that signals the result of the evaluation of the executed test method attributes.

22. (Currently Amended)   The system of Claim ~~20~~21, wherein the result signals whether the execution of the requested test method is one of a success, failure, and skipped status.

23. (Currently Amended)   The system of Claim ~~20~~21, wherein the test method executor is further arranged to gather data about the requested test method for the test harness.

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24. (Currently Amended)   The system of Claim ~~20~~21, wherein the test case scenario object is arranged to request a test service by querying a test services provider object.

25. (Currently Amended)   The system of Claim ~~20~~21, wherein the attributes that are associated with the requested test method are presented to the test method executor as an ordered list.

26. (Original) The system of Claim 25, wherein the test method executor evaluates the attributes that are associated with the requested test method according to the order of the ordered list.

27. (Currently Amended)   The system of Claim ~~20~~21, wherein the test method executor is further configured to generate a parameter list in response to the before-execution evaluation of the attributes that are associated with the requested test method.

28. (Currently Amended)   ~~The system of Claim 20, wherein the test method executor is further arranged~~ A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components, comprising:

a test case scenario object that comprises a test method that is arranged to test an electronic system;

a test harness that is arranged to invoke the test method by issuing a request to invoke the test method; and

a test method executor that is arranged to receive the request and invoke the requested test method by evaluating attributes that are associated with the requested test method before execution of the requested test method, to execute the requested test method, to evaluate attributes of the executed test method, to return a result to the test harness that signals a status that results when an exception is thrown, and to return a result to the test harness that signals the result of the evaluation of the executed test method attributes.

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29. (Cancelled)